

CHICAGO BROKE AFTER REVOLT OF TAXPAYERS

Court Rules Assessments
Unfair; Levies Never
Collected.

Chicago is not alone in its financial
muddle. A score of major American
cities are drifting toward the same
fate. The Chicago crisis may be duplicated
over the country, as the concluding
installment of a series of stories
about Chicago's pitch tells how and why
taxpayers went on "strikes," precipi-
tating the city into its struggle against
bankruptcy.

BY RAY BLACK

United Press Staff Correspondent
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CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—A taxpayers' revolt brought Chicago to the brink of
bankruptcy.

"Taxes are too high; assessments
are unfair," home owners, shop
keepers and business men protested.
"We won't pay."

They did not pay. More than
\$140,000,000 in taxes for the last
four years remain unpaid. While 88
per cent of the 1928 taxes was sent
in, only 63 per cent of the 1929 as-
sessments was met, and the 1930
and 1931 tax statements lie on the
city treasurer's desks unsent.

The muddle dates from a re-
assessment a few years ago. Middle
class folk complained that \$15,000,-
000 in personal property, trust
estates, bank deposits and other
holdings of the rich had been left
off the tax rolls. Irrate home owners
organized, retained attorneys.

Test Case Won by Widow

A test case was brought in behalf
of Mrs. Lillian Cisar, an Oak Park
widow. She refused to pay taxes
on her home because the assessment
was unfair.

County Judge Edmund K. Jarecki
heard the case.

"Scandalous and a crying shame,"

he said of the tax apportionment.
"What can be fair about an assess-
ment that deliberately omits \$15,-
000,000 of taxable wealth?"

Judge Jarecki declared the 1928
and 1929 tax rolls void. Since the
1930 roll was based on that of 1928,
it, presumably, is illegal.

The decision was appealed to the
Illinois supreme court this week.
Unless the high court reverses Judge
Jarecki, the whole taxing scheme of
the city and county will have to be
revamped before taxpayers can be
compelled to pay.

Legislature Stumped

Last Tuesday, Superior Judge
Charles A. Williams issued a writ
of mandamus compelling the board
of review to place the \$15,000,000
of personal property in the tax
lists. If the supreme court upholds
that order, enough valuation would
be added to cut the tax rate in half.

But how soon the complicated
tangle of suits, appeals and writs
can be cleared up so money relief
will start pouring into munici-
pal coffers again, is problematical.

The state legislature, meeting in
special session to pass laws to re-
make the tax machinery, is at
loggerheads. One relief bill was
killed in a test vote. It will be re-
considered next week.

As the matter stands, citizens
howled about their taxes, refused
to pay them, and a court upheld
them. They are in revolt with
legal sanction.

Editorial Blames Graft

Appeals of officials and civic lead-
ers that homeowners pay now and
trust to later court rulings for re-
apportionment have gone unheeded.
Not a cent in taxes has been paid
since Judge Jarecki's ruling.

The Chicago Tribune, in an editorial
headed, "A Stout Thief on a
Starved Jackass," placed the blame
in these words:

"The voters elected officials to
steal the public funds. The officials
stole the funds. To replenish them,
they raised taxation and stole more
funds."

"Theft and taxation climbed to-
gether. Corruption and collapse
were twins from one cradle."

"This impossible structure of graft
was about to fall of its own weight
when bad times came to take the
taxpayer on the other flank. That
settled it. In Chicago the very ma-
chinery for levying taxes had to
break down under its sins. Other
cities went to ruin without that
added cause."

Crisis Grows Acute

"American democracy has given
its demagogic and dishonest political
system enough rope, but the
system has hung, not itself, but the
democracy. Charlatans of reform,
brainless windbags, greedy almoners,
sor bigots and fat scoundrels
have crossed the country as a
plague of locusts and the fields are
bare."

Whatever the cause, the crisis
grows hourly more acute. There is
a tenderness even where want, cold
and hunger have not yet laid claim.
Known to that hundreds of thou-
sands are existing from meal to
meal by charity, the millions who
have not yet suffered have begun to
wonder.

"Will we be next, if the city goes
under?" is a question none can an-
swer now.

Asks Divorce



Zasu Pitts

By United Press

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 15.—Zasu Pitts, motion picture comedienne, charging desertion, sought divorce from Thomas S. Galler, sportsman, in a suit on file today in superior court.

Galler left her Nov. 24, 1926, Miss Pitts charged, and refused to return to their home. They were married in 1920.

RELIEF BILLS BEING MERGED

La Follette and Costigan
Plans Consolidated.

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—One bill for
direct relief for destitution caused by
unemployment, carrying an
appropriation, probably, of
\$375,000,000 will be reported out this
week, it is understood, by the senate
committee on manufacturers.

The measure will merge the es-
sential feature of the La Follette
and Costigan bills, hearings on
which just have been concluded,
and, in all likelihood, will bear the
names of both senators.

It is believed the joint measure
will provide for a board of five to
administer the funds.

The bill is expected to carry out
the principle of grants-in-aid to
states or local communities which
are unable to meet relief demands
and to co-operate with them in
providing funds for both work
relief and home relief.

Both the bill introduced by Senator
La Follette, chairman of the
committee, and one presented by
Senator Edward P. Costigan of Col-
orado, have many points in com-
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is understood, will appear in the
bill to be reported by the commit-
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The Values Are Outstanding
1,500 PAIRS MEN'S FANCY HOSE 9c
All sizes; rayon, plaid and mercerized. Plain and fancy
patterns. First quality and irregulars. Values to 25c. Pair.
only

The Greatest Shirt Bargains in the City
775 MEN'S DRESS SHIRTS 48c
All sizes, 14 to 17. Collar attached, plain and fancy
broadcloths. First quality and irregulars. Values to
\$1. Only

No Other Store Offers Greater Savings
1.25 Men's Part-Wool Sweaters 69c
All sizes. V neck, black, tan, green and navy. Part-
wool. Solid colors. An exceptional value at only.....

Bankrupt Stock Sale
347 MEN'S WORK SHIRTS 25c
347 MEN'S WORK SHIRTS 25c
Men—DO NOT confuse these with cheap quality shirts.
Heavy Blue Bell chambray. Double pockets, triple stitched.
All sizes. Irregular of 60c quality. While they last, only.

Be Here and Share in This Value
79c Men's RIBBED UNION SUITS 50c
All sizes, 36 to 46. Heavy weight, long sleeves, ankle
length. Irregulars in our fastest seller. Now only....

Men's FURNISHINGS Reduced
50c Men's Union Suits 15c
69c Slipover Sweaters 25c
Sleeveless. Part wool. 75
sizes 36 and 38 only.
Men's Dress Shirts 15c
Values to \$1. Neckband
style. Broke sizes. Some
sold, only

300 Athletic Shirts 5c
All sizes. Knitted shirts. 5c
Formerly 15c. Now.....

\$1 Flannelette Night Shirts 43c
69c Flannelette Shirts 43c
Grey and fancy plaid. All
sizes.....



O'COATS MEN'S

Once In a Lifetime Values Like These

Men's All-Wool O'Coats \$5.50
VALUES UP TO \$12.00

A Sweeping Reduction for Quick Disposal, at a price that seems unreal. All
sizes, 34 to 44. Oxford grays and fancy patterns. Plain and belted back models....

Men! Men! Savings Were Never Greater!
Men's All-Wool O'Coats \$8.50
VALUES TO \$20.00

The price is lowered, but you'll find the same quality fabrics, the same careful
workmanship that characterizes high-priced Clothing. Favorite Blues, Oxfords
and Plaids. All sizes, 34 to 46. Plain and belted back models. Many plaid back lined.

SUITS

The Values Are Truly Amazing

Men's Smart Styled Suits \$7.70
VALUES TO \$12.00

Men, compare these Clothing values and judge for yourself. A large assortment
to choose from in assorted styles. For Men and Young Men. Extra trousers, \$2.50.

The Best Values in Town, We Believe
Men's Wool & Worsted Suits \$10.70

Here is your opportunity to get the Smartest, New Fashions for Men at
a price you will be glad to pay. Popular shades in all woolen materials.
All sizes 34 to 44, to fit all builds. Extra trousers, \$3.

VALUES TO \$17.50

TROUSERS

Men, Match Your Suit Here!

1,800 Pairs Men's Dress Pants \$1

Choose from this tremendous assortment. Regular and Collegiate styles. Many with 22-inch
bottoms. Blue Serges, Cashmeres, and Worsted, Plain and Novelty Patterns. Sizes 30 to 50.

\$2.80-\$1.80 AND

The Lowest Prices in Town, We Believe
1,250 Pairs Men's Work Pants 69c

All sizes, 30 to 42, heavy worsteds, trojans, moleskins, khakis and fleece-lined.

Every pair guaranteed to give satisfaction. On sale Saturday at only

\$1.40-\$1.00 AND

LEADER CUT PRICE DEPARTMENT STORE

WASHINGTON AT DELAWARE

VALUES UP TO \$1
RUMMAGE TABLE 5c to 25c
Wash dresses, aprons, infant wear, curtains, sweaters, gloves, etc. Counter Soiled and Irregulars.

1,500 Yds. Crash Toweling 5c
Blue, Rose and Gold striped, 17
inches wide, extra quality. Yard only

\$1.49 MEN'S UNIONALLS 1
All sizes, 36 to 46. Heavy Hickory striped. While 50 \$1
pairs last, only

79c BOYS' PLAY SUITS 49c
All sizes, 3 to 10. Heavy Blue and Hickory striped. Pair only

22x44 TURKISH TOWELS 15c
Heavy quality, large absorbent towels. Formerly 29c values, only—

1,500 Yds. 36-In. CHALLIES 10c
Formerly 15c yard, as sorted colors and patterns. Yard only—

18x36 RAG RUGS 12 1/2c
Regular 25c value hit and miss patterns, fringed edges—While 75 last—

29c INFANTS' WEAR 19c
Outing Flannel Gowns, Gertrudes, Kimonos, Knitted Booties, Rubber Sheets, etc.

59c BED BLANKETS 39c
Fancy Plaid Blankets. 60x76. While 50 last—

RUMMAGE TABLE 5c to 50c
Men's and boys' underwear, shirts, caps, sweaters, overalls, etc. Counter Soiled and Irregulars.

255 GIRLS' COATS 1
All sizes, 7 to 14. Spring and fall weight. All wool materials. Blue, red, tan and green. Former values up to \$5.95. While they last—

ALL-WOOL SWEATERS 79c
Children's Fancy Slipovers. All sizes, 28 to 34. Guaranteed all-wool. Actual \$1 values—

500 GIRLS' DRESSES 25c
All sizes, colorful prints. Values to 50c. Sizes 7 to 14.

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